

**PACED VENTILATION THERAPY BY AN  
IMPLANTABLE CARDIAC DEVICE**

Abstract

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An implantable cardiac rhythm management device for treating tachyarrhythmias such as ventricular fibrillation which also has the capability of detecting and treating respiratory arrest. The device restores respiratory function by electrically stimulating the diaphragm with pacing electrodes which may be normally  
10 used by the device for cardiac pacing. In response to detection of ventricular fibrillation and respiratory arrest, the device delivers shock pulses to terminate the fibrillation and diaphragmatic pacing pulses to restore breathing.

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